New Traditions Must Honour the Past



by Raymond-M. Hébert
President, ACS Board of Directors

"We have transformed the Bulletin into a more accessible vehicle for studies on Canada."

You hold in your hands the first issue of a new magazine to be published by the ACS. It's name: Canadian Issues / Thèmes canadiens.

It was last June when the ACS Board of Directors adopted a resolution to amalgamate its learned journal "Canadian Issues" with the Journal of Canadian Studies, the latter published by Trent University. Articles which would otherwise have been published in 'Canadian Issues,' will now form a special issue of the Journal of Canadian Studies to be supervised by a joint editorial committee including Professor Michael Behiels from the University of Ottawa. Professor Behiels has graciously accepted a position as editor at the Association. In order to honour both the past and the excellence of "Canadian Issues," we chose to name the new magazine Canadian Issues / Thèmes canadiens.

For over twenty-five years the Association for Canadian Studies has contributed to the promotion of research, teaching and publications on Canada. In the spirit of the Association's rejuvenation, we thought it is time to reassess every aspect of the ACS Bulletin and give it a fresh look. The new magazine replaces the Bulletin, a vehicle which for many years brought the latest information on Canadian studies to readers in Canada and abroad. The result is a brand new publication, with a modern design, which will keep you informed on the progress of Canadian studies throughout the country and provoke reflections on the issues of the day.

Since 1973, the activities, publications and programs of the ACS have contributed to a better appreciation of the complex dynamic that is the Canadian experience. This new magazine holds the same objective while seeking new avenues of communication. Our intent is to reach a wider audience, especially among professors and students, with results of research on Canada conducted across the country. Our goal is to attain this objective while meeting the high standards we have set for the magazine. Furthermore, we hope this magazine will contribute to the national debate on the knowledge — or perhaps lack of knowledge — Canadians have about their history, society, economy and political system.

The magazine will be issued three times per year. It will comprise an editorial, a selection of articles on a central theme, an interview with a known Canadian personality and a set of reviews.

I would like to conclude by thanking and congratulating the team that worked for many months to create this new publication. Specifically, I would like to single out Grégory Slogar, Editor in Chief, and Jack Jedwab, Executive Director of the ACS and leader of this endeavor. To you, I say, "Bravo!" and "Thank you!" A special thanks goes to Bang Marketing for the design, creation and technical creation of the new magazine. Finally, a big thank you goes out to the Canadian Studies team at Heritage Canada. Their constant support and enthusiasm have forged a precious partnership with the Association.

So I wish you "happy reading" and I strongly encourage your letting us know your thoughts on this new magazine. I assure you that the team will do everything it can to constantly improve this publication. Your comments and suggestions will always be welcome.

We have changed the format of our publications while preserving the quality and strength of both "Canadian Issues" and the ACS Bulletin. We have transformed the Bulletin into a more accessible vehicle for studies on Canada. It is in this spirit that we present this new magazine to you. The Bulletin is no more ... long live our new Canadian Issues. ■